

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LOME 02750 251032Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 /019 W
-----105874 260558Z /14

R 250957Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 4707

UNCLAS LOME 2750

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTIO BENC TO
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECTS: TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

REF: STATE 155793

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (EXCEPT ROADS) LIKELY TO BE DEVELOPED
IN TOGO DURING NEXT FIVE YEARS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. RAILWAY: EXTENSION OF TOGO'S N-S RAILROAD FROM BLITTA TO BASSAR, FORMERLY BASSARI, PERMITTING EXPLOITATION OF IRON DEPOSITS NEAR BASSAR; PLANNERS ENVISAGE FURTHER EXTENSION FROM BASSAR TO OUAGADOUGOU, THUS COMPLETING N-S RAIL LINK. COMPLETED RAIL LINK COULD ALSO SERVE AS PART OF OVERALL TRANSPORTATION SCHEME TO OPEN UP SAHELIAN REGION, BY ALLOWING UPPER VOLTA TO TIE INTO NORTHERN TERMINUS. PROJECT IN PRELIMINARY PLANNING STAGE.

2. RAILWAY: CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY ON A SPUR LINE LINKING CIMOA CLINKER PLANT, LOCATED AT TABLIGO 80 KMS EAST OF LOME, TO PORT OF LOME; OPENING OF PLANT SCHEDULED FOR EARLY 1980S AND RAIL SPUR ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL OPERATION. HOWEVER, BRITISH FINANCING OF PLANT AND ACCOMPANYING INFRASTRUCTURE LEAVES LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR US BUSINESS.

3. PORT: ADDITION OF ANOTHER QUAY (900,000 TON CAPACITY) TO PORT OF LOME TO HANDLE MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE.

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4. PORT. GENERAL EXPANSION OF PORT OF LOME. CONTINUED EXPANSION OF THE PORT WOULD BE DEPENDENT UPON INCREASED USAGE RESULTING FROM DIVERSION TO LOME OF CARGO NORMALLY DESTINED FOR PORT OF LAGOS AND SUCCESSFUL OPERATION AND EXPANSION OF TOGO'S NEWLY ESTABLISHED MERCHANT MARINE.

5. AIRPORT: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT NIAM-TOUGOU IN NORTHERN TOGO. PLANNERS NEW SEEKING FINANCING FOR PROJECT.

6. AIRPORT: UPGRADING OF AIRPORTS THROUGHOUT TOGO. TOGOLESE PLANNERS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING CREATION OF NATIONAL AIRLINES FOR DOMESTIC AND REGIONAL FLIGHTS. IMPLEMENTATION WOULD REQUIRE UPGRADING OF MANY INTERNAL AIRPORTS. YOUNG

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